HOUSE BILL REPORT HB 2574

As Reported by House Committee On:

Transportation

Title: An act relating to special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities.

Brief Description: Allowing special year tabs on special license plates for persons with disabilities subject to annual vehicle registration.

Sponsors: Representatives Kristiansen and Pearson.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Transportation: 1/24/12, 1/30/12 [DPS].

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

 Makes available a special year tab for persons with disabilities to any special license plate, except the collector vehicle, horseless carriage, and ride share special license plates.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 28 members: Representatives Clibborn, Chair; Billig, Vice Chair; Liias, Vice Chair; Armstrong, Ranking Minority Member; Hargrove, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Angel, Asay, Eddy, Finn, Fitzgibbon, Hansen, Jinkins, Johnson, Klippert, Kristiansen, Ladenburg, McCune, Moeller, Morris, Moscoso, Overstreet, Reykdal, Rivers, Rodne, Shea, Takko, Upthegrove and Zeiger.

Staff: Beth Redfield (786-7347).

Background:

A registered owner who qualifies for special parking privileges as a person with a disability may apply to the Department of Licensing for special license plates with a special year tab for persons with disabilities. Special year tabs for persons with disabilities are not available

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on all special license plate designs, for example, Amateur Radio (ham radio), Music Matters, and Volunteer Firefighters. In addition, special year tabs for persons with disabilities are also not available for license plates on certain vehicles which are not for general use, including horseless carriages, collector vehicles, and ride share vehicles.

Summary of Substitute Bill:

Special year tabs for persons with disabilities are made available for any special license plate, except the collector vehicle, horseless carriage, and ride share special license plates.

Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:

The underlying bill made the special year tabs available to all special plates, except those subject to annual vehicle registration fees or taxes. The substitute bill deletes the exception in the underlying bill, and replaces it with an exception for collector vehicle, horseless carriage, and ride share special license plates.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date of Substitute Bill: The bill takes effect on January 1, 2013.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) Over the years, there have been many custom license plate bills for many issues and groups. The problem is that some of these bills authorizing special license plates did not allow the handicapped endorsement. This bill is a technical fix. It will make sure that all special license plates, for instance those for veterans groups and ham operators, can have the handicap endorsement.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Kristiansen, prime sponsor.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.